



NITE-TIMES NEWS

Chicago Area Timex Users Group
Volume 3, Number 5

Downers Grove, Illinois
September/October 1989

MEMORY MAP

ROUTINES	ADDRESS
CATUG Club Officers	1
NITE-TIMES Information	2
NITE-TIMES NEWS Contributions	2
Contributors to this Issue	2
Club Meetings	2
DATA INTERRUPT	2
From the Presidents Desk	3
Trea\$ury Note\$	4
Secretarys NotePad	4
Items For Sale Through Club	6
Special Deals and Buys	6
Articles:	
Drop/Down Menues	7
Custom Tape/Disk Directory	11
Classified Ads	15

C.A.T.U.G. CLUB OFFICERS

Here is the list of 1989 club officers and how to contact them. The club has two strong SIGS, SPECTRUM/TS2068 and QL. If you have questions about either of these fine machines or even the ZX81/TS1000/TS1500 call one of the officers for direction.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Butch Weinberg	373-2470	The buck stops here...
Vice-President	Gary Lessenberry	473-9415	Meeting Planning, etc.
Secretary	John Donaldson	837-7957	Records and Reporting
Treasurer	Al Feng	971-0495	Dues and Purchasing

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NITE-TIMES Information

The Nite-Times News is the newsletter of the Chicago Area Timex Users Group. For an annual fee of \$10.00 you can become a CATUG member with full membership privileges. Send your dues to :

CATUG Treasure Al Feng
15 Wake Robin Ct.
Woodridge, IL 60517

The Chicago Area Timex Users Group is pleased to exchange newsletters with other Timex and Sinclair supporting users groups at no charge. If you desire to reprint any articles that appear here, please provide credit to the author and this newsletter.

We encourage your user group to copy this newsletter and distribute it at your regular meetings to your members free of any charge as we believe that this will encourage better meeting attendance. If you are a user group that feels as we do, please let us know in your newsletter so that we might do this for our members and keep our attendance up.

Articles originating from our group can be had on tape or LarKen Disk for use in Magazines by contacting the editor. As this newsletter can be downloaded from our BBS you may reprint it using this means.

If you have any suggestions or would like to submit an article, please contact:

NITE-TIMES NEWS EDITOR
Bob Swoger
613 Parkside Circle
Streamwood, IL 60107

It is preferred that you call:
H312/837-7957 or W312/576-8068

NITE-TIMES CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to contribute an ARTICLE to the newsletter put a file in your CATUG PDP 11/60 account called NITETIMES.ART If you have special buy information place a file in your account named COMPUTER.BUY If you have a WANT AD for the newsletter put a file in your account called COMPUTER.ADS If you have information on a Special Interest Group place a file in your account called SIG.NWS

These files will be gathered by the BBS and downloaded to the editor. If you don't have a CATUG account either get one or contact the editor by mail, phone, or in person.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Butch Weinberg
John Donaldson
Al Feng
Dave Lebowitz
Bob Swoger, K9WVY

CLUB MEETINGS

The Chicago Area Timex Users Group meets on the second Saturday of each month at the home of Steve Cooper in Downers Grove, Illinois from 1:00 to 5:00 PM.

Steves home is located at 1300 Maple Street in Downers Grove just 2 blocks southwest of the Downers Grove Public Library.

The CATUG coordinator for our meetings is Steve Cooper and he can be contacted during the evening at 312/968-3553.

DATA INTERRUPT

We have finally received our TO OTHER USERS GROUPS:
We have received two new

newsletters from groups we had never heard from before. As a result we will publish a list in our next newsletter of all those groups that swap newsletters with us. WE HOPE YOU WILL DO THE SAME. We will look at your list and send copies of our newsletters to those we are missing. WE HOPE YOU WILL DO THE SAME.

**PLEASE SEND ALL
FUTURE
NEWSLETTERS
TO OUR NEW
LIBRARIAN
AT THE ADDRESS
GIVEN BELOW:**

It is:

**CATUG - C/O Bob Swoger
613 Parkside Circle
Streamwood, IL 60107**

Thank you!

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Chicago Area Timex Users Group who have been involved over the last few years in making our users group a success.

Without your time and efforts, I'm sure we would have never made our goals.

As I look at this years club activity I see a declined but now constant membership. As we call on those who have let their membership drop, we find that some have moved to 16 bit machines with MEGA-BITES of storage due to business needs or because they have become familiar with machines in the work place and now have free access to very expensive and more sophisticated software not to mention the fact that if they own the same kind of machine at home that they use at work they won't have to stay

late at work or drag a heavy machine home at night to do company work. In this group money seems to be no object as they wind up spending Kilo-bucks for these machines. Also, some still use both machines.

Others have simply lost interest in computers as a hobby and moved on to something else. In this group, some said that they would be back in the future.

What we have left is a group of users who have come to know their machines so well that they feel no need to change machines and wish to help other users come up to their level of computer literacy and hardware, firmware and software ownership.

I still feel that user group participation and world wide intercommunication with other Timex/Sinclair user groups is a key ingredient in presenting topics of interest to fellow user group members.

Our user group is made up of a dedicated core group for the following purposes:

1. To encourage Timex/Sinclair owners to make creative and enjoyable use of their Cambridge BASIC based machines.
2. To provide a means for the sharing of hardware, programming & applications knowledge among members.
3. To familiarize members with computer principles and techniques.
4. To provide an open forum for discussion.
5. To provide the customary social and technical

benefits of an organization.

6. With an organization of members having a common interest, provide for:

- A. Software demonstrations.
- B. Program, application and information library.
- C. Publication of a club newsletter.
- D. Operation of a 24 hour BBS capable of software dissemination and E-MAIL.
- E. Technical interaction with other user groups by newsletter exchanging.

This year we are emphasizing club activity by the two SIGS within our group, QL and Spectrum-T/S2068, to provide a greater exposure of these two computers to each other so that the strong points of one machine might be added to the other. Your suggestions and participation are welcome.

I hope you are all as pleased as I am by this great showing and involvement by our members.

Keep up the great work!

P.S.

We now have a 24 hour BBS and encourage you to exchange mail and contribute to the Download Section. Use it and have fun!

```
*****
*      C A T U S   B B S      *
*      312/576-7072          *
*      Type at the > prompt:  *
*      LOG SINCLAIR/GUEST     *
*      BYE to log out         *
*****
```

Butch Weinberg, President
Chicago Area Timex Users Group.

TREASURY NOTES

After our last mailing expense of \$11.50 and the addition of dues from a new member our balance stands at \$222.32. Our

current paid membership stands at 25.

Al Feng, Treasurer
Chicago Area Timex Users Group

SECRETARY'S NOTEPAD

September 16, 1989

The meeting was opened by our president at 2:11PM. Present: Messrs. Brezina, Cooper, Donaldson, Feng, Majewski, Mills, Pashtoon, Sauter, Swoger, Ulreich (& 2 children) and, of course, Butch Weinberg. The minutes of August 10th were approved as printed in July/Aug Nite-Times News (NTN).

Al Feng reports our treasury balance rose to \$230 due to re-instatement of Jay Seigel's membership. Jay is the only member doing CP/M on a TS2068.

A tutorials agenda was approved in August starting with this meeting. September's was on Archive and will be covered later. October 14th, John Ulreich will demonstrate MIDI on a TS2068. In ensuing months, Nazir Pashtoon will present hardware demos and another member will show a graphics program.

While 40 percent of our members attended, incentives for the other 60 percent were discussed. If you're looking for incentives for coming to meetings (other than some fine tutorials), take another look at the the list of newsletters other user groups exchange with us in the March/April NTN. Bob Swoger, our librarian is a big guy - and he NEEDS to be. You should see the box of T/S newsletters he brings to meetings. These are not mailed within the club so if you haven't been out lately, come early. You've got a lot of

catching up to do!

As for Nite-Times News, we will regurly send a copy to SNUG and Update magazine. This can be on magnetic media if requested. We strongly believe that the continuity of Sinclair/Timex user groups can be achieved only by the sharing of information. And while we respect the fact that there may be copyrighted information in other newsletters, we urge any of them to copy our articles provided credit is given to NTN.

Butch has been told that the last - and final - issue of Syncware News/Quantum Levels may be out in about a month. For some of us, it's like an old friend leaving town. We wish Tom Bent well. Unhappily, it's another case of too few articles and too little advertizer support. The message is clear: Buy your own subscriptions rather than "borrowing" and - as often as you can - buy software/hardware from their advertizers. Money DOES talk! Butch has also contacted Time Designs about aborted subscriptions.

Apparently, their lost database has almost been recovered and a mailout is planned in a month or two.

Our alter-egos in M'waukee will have a fest in April/May 1990. Butch not only encourages our presence in support of SMUG but attendance a a BIG Friday night kickoff dinner. Think about it!

Butch hears that the Trump Card ROM has been updated again without changing Toolkit and that out of 5000 QLs made for the US, only 200-300 remain unsold. Do you believe in redundancy? Do you have only one? Enough said.

Al Feng brought along a Toshiba Model 4603 3-1/2" 1.4 MB disk drive. A nice-looking unit requiring only a 5 volts for operation. Al noted that although the drive will handle 1.4MB, it formats to 720KB for QLs with no problem. The price? \$90-\$150 without power supply.

Nazir began dreaming about replacing the microdrives on his QL with one of these right away.

Nazir told us that the disk drive on his Portuguese (Spectrum) system formats to 620 K, not 720K, and doesn't know why. He also relates that in trying a modem with a QL at 300 baud, the error rate was so high he gave up in disgust. It was generally agreed that 1200 baud works best.

Bob Swoger was happy to say that our club BBS computer now includes a PDP 11/34 in addition to its PDP 11/23+. These will back up our PDP 11/60, allowing our BBS to run for years, hopefully!

Bob has updated AOS-DOS for LK-DOS to make it a bit faster on the screens and handle Dohany's RLE programs. Also he rewrote Dohany's program to work with LK-DOS to show disk files of screens on disk.

Finally, he says, shop Ham RadioFests. Case in point: he picked up his last two TS2068s for \$25 apiece. One was like new; the other had a worn shift key but it works fine, too.

The business meeting closed at 2:55PM.

Overheard on a radio talk show:

After "frying" his computer system, one man decided to become the patron saint of

computerists. He greets his audience with the sign of the monitor (whatever that is) and never forgets to ask, "Is your data saved, brother?" Does anyone know anything more about him?

[Editors note: Yes, His name is Al Feng and he fried his QL with the above mentioned drive after the September meeting. Can anyone sell him a spare? He now believes in redundancy!]

OCTOBER MEETING

The regularly scheduled October meeting was cancelled due to the passing of Steve Cooper's father. Since our meetings are held at Steve's home and he needed some time to "re-group", we will next meet on November 11th. Condolences come from the hearts of all the members of the Chicago Area Timex Users Group, Steve.

Jonh Donaldson, Secratary
Chicago Area Timex Users Group

B & B Computer Supplies of Elk Grove village carries:

Ribbons
Diskettes
Printer Paper by the case
9 1/2 X 11 15# 3500 Sheets
Fan-Fold Pin Feed\$30

Printer Paper by the case
9 1/2 X 11 20# 2700 Sheets
Fan-Fold Pin Feed\$28

Printer Paper by the box
9 1/2 X 11 15# 1000 Sheets
Fan-Fold Pin Feed\$10.95

Printer Paper by the box
9 1/2 X 11 20# 1000 Sheets
Fan-Fold Pin Feed\$13

Contact:
Joe Becker 708/860-2906

SPECIAL DEALS AND BUYS

CLUB POLICY REGARDING SPECIAL PURCHASES

Each special buy will have a CHAIRMAN who will coordinate ALL ACTIVITY regarding a purchase. The CHAIRMAN will publicize the special buy through the newsletter and at the CATUG meetings. All inter-action will go through the CHAIRMAN and all checks will be sent to him, payable to the CHAIRMAN.

When the purchased goods arrive, the CHAIRMAN will see that they are distributed. All special buys must be PAID IN ADVANCE because the CATUG does not have enough funds to handle all of the buys without cash flow problems. So you MUST SEND A CHECK TO THE CHAIRMAN BEFORE THE DEADLINE or you will not be included in the special buy. The CHAIRMAN will contact the members on his interest list regarding deadlines and purchase price or alternately, it will appear in the NITE-TIMES newsletter.

Bob Swoger is the chairman for the following:

256K RAM-DISK KIT for T/S 2068

LarKen RAM-Disk Operating
system board built and tested,
256K RAM-DISK board with
connectors only, no IC's. The
Disk Drive controller board can
be added later to control up to
4 more double sided drives.
Battery back-up, all system
software.

**** \$88.00 postage paid. ***
Contact the chairman for more
details. There is no Qty. buy
necessary. 708/576-8068

DROP DOWN MENUS (QL program)

by
Al Feng

Most of us have seen them. They generally look good. And, no, I'm not talking about the models in the SPORTS ILLUSTRATED's annual "swim suit" issue. I'm referring to DROP-DOWN MENUS and POP-UP WINDOWS. In the former instance, the menu windows appear to DROP DOWN (get it?) from a COMMAND LINE located near the top of the screen. In the latter case, they're more like dandelions which POP UP in an otherwise green lawn, often appearing in a rather hap-hazard fashion. In either case, you are generally presented with a limited number of immediately accesible options from which you may choose.

The reason that many programs do NOT use drop-down or pop-up windows is simply because circumstances don't always warrant it.

A simple BOOT program only has to EXECute the principle program.

In other cases, there may only be two or three options. On the other hand, a reason to use multiple menus might be to present the end-user with "types" of options which have been segregated (grouped) by the program(mer). One of the many nice features about the QL is the ability to create multiple WINDOWS. However, the direct ability to create multiple WINDOWS is not necessary for generating a screen with drop-down menus, it just makes it a bit easier. The alternative would be to use the QL's BLOCKing abilities ('BLOCK' is used in this program merely to CLEAR the menu(s) from the screen; but it could just as easily be implemented for the actual menus).

The "opening screen" will present you with a "white" screen with a command line near the top similar to the illustration (below). The following program has three drop-down windows. When this screen is first seen, "FILES" will be highlighted with a colored bar, and the letters of the option name in white.

```
FILES  OPTIONS  PRINTER_INFO                @ PLATYPUS Software
```

The highlighted bar is moved either to the right or left by pressing the 'TAB' key or using a 'shift TAB' key combination, respectively.

The "FILES" menu allows for individual LOADING of any of the Psion Business programs (eg., Quill, etc.), or initiating a multi-TASKing environment (in this instance, TASKMASTER). The "OPTIONS" menu is used here as a "help" page. "PRINTER_INFO" is a variation of a routine from the QUANTA library which allows for changing the printer_dat.

When you QUIT any of the Psion programs, you will be returned to the opening screen. Proceed as appropriate.

You may find, after QUITing a program, that you have a blank screen. If this happens, use a 'shift F5' key combination to restore the screen. If you use a multi-TASKing environment, you should suspend SuperBASIC by pressing 'esc' until the CURSOR appears otherwise, SuperBASIC will be treated as an active TASK by whatever environment you are in and slow the screen, et al,

of the other EXEC'd tasks (Type "START" to re-start.)

```
100 WINDOW#0,450,52,42,200:PAPER#0,7:INK#0,0
110 WINDOW#1,512,256,0,0:PAPER#1,7:INK#1,0:CLS
120 WINDOW#2,512,256,0,0:PAPER#2,7:INK#2,0
130 REMark ss=RESPR(10070):LBYTES flpl_zip_code,ss:
    CALL ss:_SCROLL 20
140 REMark ram=RESPR(5120):LBYTES flpl_dram_code,ram:
    CALL ram:PRINT#0,"Dynamic RAM Disking"
150 REMark tk=RESPR(6144):LBYTES flpl_turbo_code,tk:CALL tk
160 REMark base=RESPR(43992):LBYTES flpl_boot_rext,base:CALL
    base:HOTKEY
170 DIM print1$(12),print2$(12),print3$(12),dev$(8)
180 dev$="flpl ":PROGram$="QLUSTer":VERsion$="4r089":fenetre=0:
    CLS:CLS#2:Start
190 DEFine PROCedure Start:CLS:INK 0
200 LINE 0,96.5 TO 512,96.5
210 CMD LINE
220 LINE 0,92 TO 512,92
230 BEEP 200,20:FILE
240 END DEFine Start
250 DEFine PROCedure CMD LINE
260 Kbytes=(PEEK_L(163856)-PEEK_L(163852)-1024)/1024
270 AT 1,7:STRIP 7:INK 0
275 PRINT" FILES OPTIONS PRINTER INFO ";
280 INK 5:PRINT,,, ' @ PLATYPUS Software':INK 0
290 END DEFine CMD LINE
300 Key3:PickOneOfTheseOptions
310 DEFine PROCedure Key3
320 REPEAT key
330 keystrike=CODE(INKEY$)
340 IF keystrike=69 THEN EXIT key
350 IF keystrike=101 THEN EXIT key
360 IF keystrike=232 THEN EXIT key
370 IF keystrike=236 THEN EXIT key
380 IF keystrike=240 THEN EXIT key
390 IF keystrike=244 THEN EXIT key
400 IF keystrike=248 THEN EXIT key
410 IF keystrike=250 THEN EXIT key
420 IF keystrike<236 AND keystrike>116 THEN BEEP 900,40:Key3
430 IF keystrike=116 OR keystrike=84 THEN EXIT key
440 IF keystrike<116 AND keystrike>84 THEN BEEP 900,40:Key3
450 IF keystrike<84 AND keystrike>27 THEN BEEP 900,40:Key3
460 IF keystrike=253 OR keystrike=9 THEN EXIT key
470 IF keystrike=27 THEN CLS:BEEP 900,20:STRIP 7:INK 0:
    AT 24,32:PRINT'@ PLATYPUS Software':EXIT key
480 END REPEAT key:END DEFine Key3
490 DEFine PROCedure PickOneOfTheseOptions
500 IF keystrike = 250 THEN BEEP 900,20:Start
510 IF keystrike = 253 THEN BEEP 900,20:PrevWindow
520 IF keystrike = 9 THEN BEEP 200,10:NextWindow
530 END DEFine PickOneOfTheseOptions
540 DEFine PROCedure NextWindow
550 BLOCK 500,200,0,21,7:fenetre = fenetre+1:
    IF fenetre=3 THEN fenetre=0
560 WindowChoice
570 END DEFine NextWindow
580 DEFine PROCedure PrevWindow
590 BLOCK 500,200,0,21,7:fenetre=fenetre- 1:if fenetre<0 THEN
    fenetre=2
```



```

600 WindowChoice
610 END DEFine PrevWindow
620 DEFine PROCedure WindowChoice
630 IF fenetre = 0 THEN FILE
640 IF fenetre = 1 THEN OPTIONS
650 IF fenetre = 2 THEN PRINTER
660 END DEFine WindowChoice
670 DEFine PROCedure PRINTER
680 CMD_LINE:AT 1,26:STRIP 5:INK 7:PRINT" PRINTER_INFO "
690 OPEN#5,scr_220x80a156x20:PAPER#5,7:
700 BORDER#5,1,0:INK#5,0:CLS#5
710 print1$="PR2300":print2$="IBM.W5":print3$="PR2300"
720 STRIP#5,5:PRINT#5,TO 5;"Select ";;INK#5,7:PRINT#5,"Quill
   ";;INK#5,0:PRINT#5,"printer driver ":STRIP#5,7:INK#5,0
730 PRINT#5,\" [F1] ="&print2$&" / single sheet"
740 PRINT#5, " [F2] ="&print3$&" / single sheet"
750 PRINT#5, " [F3] ="&print1$&" / continuous feed"
760 INK#5,5:PRINT#5,\"[F5] = What_Was_That Printer_dat?"
770 Key3:PickOneOfTheseOptions
780 SElect ON keystrike
790 =248:PAPER#5,0:CLS#5:PRINT #5,TO 8;"CaNyoUreadTHiS?";:
   INK#5,7:PRINT#5\\\\\\\\\\TO 6;"HIT <Any Key> to CONTINUE":
   COPYdev$&"printer_dat"TOcon_220x58a158x30:BEEP200,20:PAUSE:
   PRINTER
800 =232:DELETE dev$&"printer_dat":COPY dev$&print2$&"_dat" TO
   dev$&"printer_dat"
810 =236:DELETE dev$&"printer_dat":COPY dev$&print3$&"_alt" TO
   dev$&"printer_dat"
820 =240:DELETE dev$&"printer_dat":COPY dev$&print1$&"_dat" TO
   dev$&"printer_dat"
830 END SElect
840 END DEFine PRINTER
860 DEFine PROCedure FILE
870 CMD_LINE:AT 1,7:STRIP 5:INK 7:PRINT" FILES "
880 OPEN#6,scr_106x132a42x20:PAPER#6,7
885 BORDER#6,1,0:INK#6,0:CLS#6
890 PRINT#6,\" [F1] = Quill"
900 PRINT#6,\" [F2] = Archive"
910 PRINT#6,\" [F3] = Abacus"
920 PRINT#6,\" [F4] = Easel"
930 PRINT#6,\" [F5] = ";;INK#6,37:PRINT#6,PROGram$
940 STRIP#6,5:INK#6,2:PRINT#6,\" [";:INK#6,7:PRINT#6,"E";:
   INK#6,2:PRINT#6,"]";:INK#6,0:PRINT#6,"ditor "
950 STRIP#6,0:INK#6,2:PRINT#6," [";:INK#6,7:PRINT#6,"T";:
   INK#6,2:PRINT#6,"]";:INK#6,5:PRINT#6,"askMaster "
960 Key3:PickOneOfTheseOptions
970 YourChoice=keystrike
980 SElect ON YourChoice
990 =232:EXEC W dev$&"quill":GO TO 170
1000 =236:EXEC W dev$&"archive":GO TO 170
1010 =240:EXEC W dev$&"abacus":GO TO 170
1020 =244:EXEC W dev$&"easel":GO TO 170
1030 =248:EXEC W dev$&PROGram$&VERsion$:GO TO 170
1040 =69:editor:GO TO 170
1050 =101:editor:GO TO 170
1060 =84:TASK bot
1070 =116:TASK bot
1080 END SElect: END DEFine FILE
1100 DEFine PROCedure editor:EXEC dev$&"editor":END DEFine
1110 DEFine PROCedure OPTIONS

```



```

1120 CMD_LINE:AT 1,15:STRIP 5:INK 7:PRINT" OPTIONS "
1130 OPEN#7,scr_172x112a90x20:PAPER#7,7
1135 BORDER#7,1,0:INK#7,7:CLS#7
1140 STRIP#7,0:AT#7,0,16:PRINT#7,"          ":AT#7,0,0:
      PRINT#7,TO 7;Kbytes;" Kilobytes ";;STRIP#7,7
1150 INK#7,0:PRINT#7,\\ " EXEC_W:";;INK#7,2:PRINT#7," Psion
      programs"
1160 INK#7,2:PRINT#7,TO 12;PROGrama$&" " & VERSION$\\TO 5;
      "EXEC: EDITOR "
1170 STRIP#7,7:INK#7,0:PRINT#7,\\ " CHECK: ";;INK#7,5:
      PRINT#7," Printer_dat"
1180 INK#7,7:STRIP#7,5:PRINT#7,\\ " shft[F5]";:INK#7,0:
      PRINT#7," Restore screen ";
1190 STRIP#7,2:INK#7,7:PRINT#7,\\ " (esc): QUIT "
1200 Key3:PickOneOfTheseOptions
1210 END Define OPTIONS
1220 Define PROCedure TASK_bot
1240 ("RENUM 2000" your TASKMASTER BOOT, SAVE IT, and
1250 then MERGE it to the end of the rest of the
1260 program LISTing as a DEfined PROCedure ... )
1290 CALL base+total, base+total+10000:CLS:Start:END Define
1300 REMark ***** @ PLATYPUS Software (1989) *****

```

The various DEfined PROCedures do the following (more orless):

Start	ClearsScreen, calls CMD_LINE procedure
CMD_LINE	establishes COMMAND LINE
Key3	(in)validates key inputs
PickOneOfThese	Reads key input, selects bar direction
NextWindow	moves the highlighted bar to the right
PrevWindow	moves the highlighted bar to the left
WindowChoice	interprets NextWindow/PrevWindow and initiates appropriate DEfined PROCedure
PRINTER	allows you to see or change the printer_dat which will be accessed by Quill
FILE	allows you to LOAD various programs
OPTIONS	a help page
TASK_bot	the TASKMASTER BOOT data should be inserted (MERGED) here (if you have it).
Lines	100 to 120 determine WINDOW size, PAPER & INK color(s).

Lines 130 to 160 are RESident PROCedures which may be omitted or activated from the LISTing as appropriate.

Line 170 is also optional, and merely establishes the maximum size of various strings used.

Line 180 determines strings/variables. Calls first DEfined PROCedure ("Start").

Line 300 initiates the two PROCedures which interpret the key inputs.

If you don't have a program editor, then you may omit line 940, 1040, 1050, 1100 and the last half of line 1160.

Of course, you probably use different printers. Rename the specific printer_dat(s) as appropriate to your situation (eg., DAISY_dat, MATRX_dat, LASER_dat).

HAPPY TRAILS (and, COMPUTING) TO YOU!

CUSTOM DISK/TAPE DIRECTORY

Bob Swoger, K9WVY	T/S 2068
Motorola, Inc.	T/S 2040
312/576-8068	T/S 2050
Schaumburg, IL	Legend 1080
	TASMAN CPI
	LARKEN DOS

This is the first of a two part article which will give owners of the LARKEN disk system greater ease in getting around from program to program in a multi-drive system. Larry Kenny has made a disk drive system possible for many T/S 2068 owners by making an interface for about \$120 while drives can now be found used for under \$50. This makes his disk drive system for under \$200 comparable to the going price of a floppy drive system used on other 8 BIT color computer systems. If you never had the ability to run Spectrum programs because you didn't want to open the case of your precious T/S 2068, Larry's system fixes this problem by providing a place on his controller for a Spectrum ROM and a Kempstone Joy-Stick on his floppy drive interface. Adding his 250K RAM-DISK to my system has really brought me a long way from my old slow tape system.

The program presented here provides a way to find programs filed away on disk or tape and manage their movement within or between storage cases with relative ease. The second program will be a linking program that will allow you to move from drive to drive and easily select a program to run from the disk directory with very little typing.

Even without a disk drive system, this article is very useful for those still using a tape system on their machines or those who wish to file audio

or video disks or cassettes. This program was first written as a tape directory but the program presented here is the LarKen disk directory version with modifications given to change it to the cassette tape version.

After years of collecting all sorts of program tapes for my T/S 2068 I began to have trouble finding the program I wished to run among the many boxes of tape programs I had acquired, and the list of new programs is still growing! This program has solved my problem by giving me a way to move titles in boxes from slot to slot with great ease. I then store this program in the front slot of the first box and run it first to find other tapes. I also use it to manage my VCR tape drawers and data disk library cases. I store the disk version on my LARKEN RAM-DISK for quick access. I used an earlier version of this program with my ZX81 as the first program on a tape of many programs to show the programs on a single tape and to load the desired program from it. Some may wish to modify this program to do these things.

Each displayed board represents a storage box containing 20 slots. The 20 slots are divided into two columns of ten slots each. Please number these in your mind as 1 thru 10 on the left side and 11 thru 20 on the right. You may put titles as long as 12 characters into each space provided. You may then Add new titles, Delete titles, or Move a title from one slot to another slot either in the same box or a different box. The ability to see the titles in each box is as easy as hitting the 'NEXT' key or using the LEFT or RIGHT ARROW keys. A SAVE feature with VERIFY is also provided. LPRINT key will

print the contents of all 12 boxes to your T/S 2040 printer and the COPY key will send a picture of the box on the screen to the printer. This can be taped to the inside of the clear plastic top of the tape storage box to show what is inside.

Now for a few tricks. In her book "T/S 2068 BASICS and BEYOND", Sharon Zardetto Aker states that if we try to print to the 23rd and 24th line of the screen the system will crash. Line 820 shows one of three ways to do this without crashing. The second is an input statement in the form of line 1020 and the third is with the use of the statement "PRINT#1,"string".

The CUSTOM KEYBOARD SECTION sets up custom features for your machine even after exiting the MENU program as long as the machine is not turned off or another program doesn't reset the feature. In this section you may enter your favorite POKES to adjust key 'click' or 'repeat' key hold down duration.

My favorite feature of the CUSTOM KEYBOARD SECTION took me a little time to find but was well worth the effort. Since I have been writing BASIC programs for about 16 years now, I was accustomed to having my terminal come up in the CAP or upper case mode to answer prompts. This is accomplished in line 8040 with the POKE 23658,24 statement. POKEing this flag to 16 will cause the machine to return to the lower case mode.

A 'c/o' key is provided on the GRAPHICS 'B' key in the CUSTOM KEYBOARD SECTION as are a few other things. The GRAPHICS 'A' is set-up to provide the interesting background for the

MENU board. This key is provided on the ZX81 but not the T/S 2068 and is a nice background on monochrome monitors. It will look purple on a color monitor although it is truly black and white!

Now for a few words about abbreviating. As I stated earlier, there is room for only 12 character titles. To fit in longer titles, try leaving out first the vowels, then one of the consecutive double letters in a word. If the word starts with a vowel, leave it in. Most long titles will still make sense. You can use this trick for many other data records in filing systems. If someone misspells a word, it is often because they used the wrong vowel. The ancients could read and write without vowels and you will find that, knowing the rules, you will too. Also, it does save BITES!

A HELP screen is also available to show all the possible keys that will give you desired results. Just press 'H' to see the HELP file.

I suggest that when storing tapes or disks that you try to keep a particular theme in each box, utilities in one box, games in another, word processors in another, terminal programs in another, etc. In this way locating a program is made easier. My recently acquired disk library-cases hold 10 disks each. I backup my LARKEN RAM-DISK on disk number 0 and then put disks 0 through 9 in the first case, 10 through 19 in the next case and so on. I then use slots 11 through 20 of the menu board to comment or expand the description for the first 10 slots.

To change the program for use as a LARKEN tape directory change the following lines:

```

610 REM *CUSTOM TAPE DIRECTORY*
9993 PRINT #VAL "4": SAVE "TAPE
S.B1" LINE 8E3

```

To change the program for use as a tape directory in a tape only system also change the following lines:

```

9993 SAVE "TAPES.B1" LINE 8000
9995 POKE 23659,0: PRINT AT 22
,0 ; PAPER 4;" Rewind tape & P
lay to VERIFY ":POKE 23659,2:PR
INT AT 0,0
9996 VERIFY "TAPES.B1"
9998 LOAD "L.B1"

```

To initialize and save the program, after loading it into the T/S 2068 and making ready your storage device, type the following in the immediate mode:

```
DIM G$(3121):GOTO 9990 <ENTER>
```

Never RUN this program as all the DATA will be erased! Use GOTO 1 instead.

This program can be downloaded from the CATUG BBS using MTERM II on your Westridge 2050. Use the data parameters 8-N-1 Full-DUPLEX, buffer conversion HEX and the buffer closed and empty. Call 312/576-7072 and after connecting hit <ENTER> until you get the '>' prompt. Then type: LOG SINCLAIR/GUEST

Go to the BBS download section and download either DISKS.B1 or TAPES.B1. Remember that you are a guest on this board and please act accordingly.

```

610 REM *CUSTOM DISK DIRECTORY*
WRITTEN BY ROBERT E. SWOGER
JULY 23, 1988*
620 PAPER VAL "7": GO TO VAL "8
000"
710 REM **** DISPLAY Section **
720 PRINT AT A,L; PAPER VAL "7"
; FLASH D;"BOX ";AT A,VAL
"17"+(I-D<B);I-D: FOR J=D TO B:
PRINT PAPER A; INK VAL "9";AT
J*E,D;G$((I*260)-259)+((J*L)-L)

```

```

TO ((I*260)-259)+((J*L));AT
J*E,17;G$((I*260)-259)+(((J+B)*
L)-L) TO
((I*260)-259)+((J+B)*L)): NEXT J
: RETURN
810 REM **** PROMPT Section ***
820 POKE VAL "23659",A: PRINT A
T VAL "22",A; INK A; PAPER VAL
"4";" Add Delete Move Next
Save": POKE VAL "23659",E: PRINT
AT A,A: RETURN
920 POKE 23659,A: PRINT AT 22,A
; INK A; PAPER VAL "4";" PRESS
<ENTER> TO CONTINUE ": POKE
23659,E: RETURN
1010 REM **** ADD Section *****
1020 INPUT " ADD MODE - SLOT(1 -
20)?" ;J: GO TO VAL "1020+(A<J
AND J<=C)"
1030 INPUT " TITLE? "; LINE S$
1040 IF S$(D)=" " THEN GO TO VAL
"1030"
1050 LET G$(((I*260)-258)+((J*L)
-L) TO ((I*260)-259)+((J*L))=S$:
GO TO VAL "3130"
2010 REM **** ERASE Section ****
2020 INPUT " DELETE MODE - SLOT(
1 - 20)?" ;J: GO TO VAL
"2020+(A<J AND J<=C)"
2030 LET G$(((I*260)-258)+((J*L)
-L) TO ((I*260)-259)+((J*L))="":
GO TO VAL "3130"
3010 REM **** MOVE Section *****
3020 INPUT " MOVE FROM SLOT?(1
- 20)?" ;J: GO TO VAL "3020+(A<J
AND J<=C)"
3030 LET S$=G$(((I*260)-258)+((J*
L)-L) TO ((I*260)-259)+((J*L))
3040 POKE VAL "23659",A: PRINT A
T VAL "22",A; INK A; PAPER VAL
"4";" DELETE FROM OLD SLOT?": P
OKE VAL "23659",E
3050 LET Y$=INKEY$: IF Y$="" THE
N GO TO VAL "3050"
3060 BEEP .03,34.4: IF Y$(1)="Y"
THEN LET
G$(((I*260)-258)+((J*L)-L) TO ((
I*260)-259)+((J*L))="": GO SUB
VAL "700"
3070 IF Y$(1)<>"N" AND Y$(1)<>"Y"
THEN GO TO VAL "3040"
3080 INPUT " MOVE TO WHAT BOX?(
0 - 23)";I: LET I=I+D: GO TO VAL
"3080+(A<I AND I<K)"
3090 GO SUB VAL "700"
3110 INPUT " MOVE INTO SLOT?(1
- 20)";J: GO TO VAL "3110+(A<J
AND J<=C)"

```

```

3120 LET G$(((I*260)-258)+((J*L)
-L) TO ((I*260)-259)+(J*L))=S$
3130 GO TO VAL "9090"
4010 REM **** LPRINT Section ***
4020 FOR I=D TO L-D
4040 LPRINT ,AT A,L;"BOX  ";AT A
,17+(I-D<B);I-D
4050 FOR J=D TO B
4060 LPRINT ,AT J*E,D;G$(((I*260
)-259)+((J*L)-L) TO
((I*260)-259)+(J*L));AT J*E,VAL
"17";G$(((I*260)-259)+((J+B)*L)
-L) TO ((I*260)-259)+((J+B)*L))
4070 NEXT J
4080 NEXT I
4090 GO TO VAL "9070"
5010 REM **** HELP Section *****
5020 PRINT AT A,A;"%%%%%%%%%"
%%%%%%%%%

```

Each BOARD re
presents a File Box containing 20
SLOTS, 10 down the left side and
10 down the right, numbered 1
thru 20. Add, Delete, or Move NAM
ES in the slots using the Select
Keys shown below.

Select Keys	Option
%%%%%%%%%	%%%%%%%%%
ADD	
A +	DELETE
D 7 -	MOVE
M 6	NEXT
N 8 F	BACK
B 5	HELP
H ?	PRINT
C K L V	COPY
P Z	SAVE
S	END or
QUIT E Q	"

```

5030 GO SUB VAL "900"
5040 LET A$=INKEY$: IF A$="" THE
N GO TO VAL "5040"
5050 BEEP .03,34.4: GO TO VAL "9
000"
8010 REM *****
*** Custom Keyboard Section
*****
8020 DIM S$(12): REM DIM G$(3121
)
8030 LET A=NOT PI: LET B=VAL "10
": LET C=VAL "20": LET D=SGN PI:
LET E=VAL "2": LET L=VAL "13":
LET K=VAL "25": REM
0-ROWS-SLOTS-1-2-LENGTH-BOXES
8040 POKE VAL "23562",E: POKE VA
L "23609",VAL "50": POKE VAL
"23658",VAL "24"

```

```

8050 REM PRINT #VAL "4": POKE VA
L "16096",D: PRINT #VAL "4":
OPEN #VAL "3","LP"
8110 FOR H=A TO VAL "7" STEP E
8120 POKE USR "a"+H,BIN 10101010
8130 POKE USR "a"+(H+D),BIN 0101
0101
8140 NEXT H
8210 POKE USR "b"+0,BIN 01000000
8220 POKE USR "b"+1,BIN 10100010
8230 POKE USR "b"+2,BIN 10000100
8240 POKE USR "b"+3,BIN 10101000
8250 POKE USR "b"+4,BIN 01010000
8260 POKE USR "b"+5,BIN 00101100
8270 POKE USR "b"+6,BIN 01010010
8280 POKE USR "b"+7,BIN 10001100
9010 REM **** BILLBOARD Section
*****
9020 INK A: PAPER VAL "4": BORDE
R VAL "4": CLS
9030 FOR I=A TO VAL "21"
9040 PRINT PAPER VAL "7";"AAAAAA
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA":REM
( These are GRAPHIC A's)
9050 NEXT I
9060 PLOT A,A: DRAW A,VAL "175":
DRAW VAL "255",A: DRAW A,VAL
"-175": DRAW VAL "-254",A: DRAW
A,VAL "174": DRAW VAL "253",A:
DRAW A,VAL "-173": DRAW VAL "-25
2",A: DRAW A,VAL "174"
9070 LET I=A
9080 LET I=I+D: IF I>=K THEN LET
I=D
9090 GO SUB VAL "700": GO SUB VA
L "800"
9110 REM **** INPUT Section ***
9130 LET I$=INKEY$: IF I$="" THE
N GO TO VAL "9130"
9140 BEEP .03,34.4
9150 IF I$="A" OR I$="+" THEN GO
TO VAL "1000"
9160 IF I$="D" OR I$="7" OR I$="
0" OR I$="-" THEN GO TO VAL
"2000"
9170 IF I$="M" OR I$="6" THEN GO
TO VAL "3000"
9180 IF I$="P" OR I$="Z" THEN CO
PY
9190 IF I$="C" OR I$="K" OR I$="
L" OR I$="V" THEN GO TO VAL
"4000"
9210 IF I$="S" THEN GO TO VAL "9
990"
9220 IF I$="B" OR I$="5" THEN GO
TO VAL "9300"
9230 IF I$="H" OR I$="?" THEN GO
TO VAL "5000"

```



```

9240 IF I$="E" OR I$="Q" THEN GO
  TO VAL "9997"
9250 IF I$<>"F" AND I$<>"N" AND
I$<>"8" THEN GO TO VAL "9130"
9260 GO TO VAL "9080"
9320 LET I=I-D: IF I<D THEN LET
I=K-D
9330 GO TO VAL "9090"
9991 REM **** SAVE Section ****
9992 BEEP .15,5
9993 PRINT #VAL "4": SAVE "DISKS
.B1" LINE 8E3
9994 BEEP .042,50: PAUSE 2.8: BE
EP .042,50
9995 POKE VAL "23659",A: PRINT A
T VAL "22",A: PAPER VAL "4":' "
  Now preforming CRC      ": P
OKE VAL "23659",E: PRINT AT A,A;
9996 PRINT #VAL "4": VERIFY ""
9997 BEEP .042,50: PAUSE 2.8: BE
EP .042,50
9998 PRINT #VAL "4": LOAD "L.B1"

```

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